

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 9 to 16 are pending in the present application. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for immediate allowance, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the acknowledgment of the claim for foreign priority and the indication that all copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received from the International Bureau.

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the previously filed Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449 paper and cited references.

II. Objections to the Drawings

As regards the objections to the drawings, the Examiner will note that the Specification has been amended herein without prejudice to delete mention of reference characters "31," "42" and "43." No new matter has been added. In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the objections to the drawings are moot, and withdrawal of these objections is respectfully requested.

III. Double-Patenting Rejection

As regards the double-patenting rejection, while Applicants do not necessarily agree with the merits of this rejection, to facilitate matters, submitted herewith is a "Terminal Disclaimer to Obviate a Double Patenting Rejection Over a 'Prior' Patent" over U.S. Patent No. 6,729,287. As such, it is respectfully submitted that the present rejection is moot, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

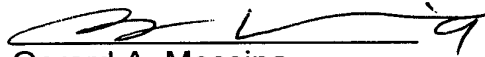
IV. Conclusion

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/13/07

By:



Gerard A. Messina
Reg. No. 35,952

KENYON & KENYON LLP
One Broadway
New York, New York 10004
(212) 425-7200
CUSTOMER NO. 26646